NOTE LIV.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THREE NEW SPECIES OF THE GENUS PHYSODERA (CARABIDAE).

BY

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The genus *Physodera* has been established already in 1829 by Eschscholtz for a species (*P. Dejeani* Esch.) with very singular inflated sides of the thorax. Twenty years afterwards Major Parry added a second species *P. Eschscholtzi* Parry) to the genus, which entirely wants that peculiarity, however, in all other respects agreeing perfectly well with the type of the genus. Both species have been originally described from the Philippine-Islands, but Major Parry made already mention that he himself possessed a specimen of *P. Eschscholtzi* from Ceylon. Subsequent explorations have shown that they are both very widely distributed. Schmidt Göbel in his Faunula coleopterorum Birmaniae" records *P. Dejeani* Esch. from Tenasserim and Dr. Hagen sent over to the Leyden Museum, specimens from East-Sumatra (Deli), together with examples of *P. Eschscholtzi* Parry, which is also known as an inhabitant of Borneo and Java. Having such a wide range, it is not surprising that these species are subject to certain modifications. The elytral colour is very variable, even specimens from one and the same locality differ within the limits of golden-bronzy to violaceous-purple. The thorax of *Eschscholtzi* I found very inconstant in outline, being considerably larger in some examples than in others, and the elytral sculpture of that species is sometimes very

distinct, sometimes quite obsolete. Recently Fairmaire described a new *Physodera* from China, Fokien, under the name of *P. Davidis* Fairm. As the whole description does not contain a single expression, which should not apply perfectly well to *P. Eschscholtzi*, and moreover, as the diagnosis is not accompanied by a single word of comparison, which should let us suppose that the author has known the existance of *Eschscholtzi*, I shall allow myself to regard *P. Davidis* Fairm., until better evidence of its specific distinctness will be given, as a mere synonym of *P. Eschscholtzi* Parry.

I shall now proceed to describe in this paper three more species of *Physodera*; two of them, originating respectively from Hongkong and Celebes, are closely allied to *P. Eschscholtzi*; whether they must be regarded as distinct species or as local forms of *Eschscholtzi*, is a matter of opinion, but looking both very different and deserving certainly a name, I do not see much harm in treating them presently as distinct. The third species, which has been already for a long time in the collection of the Leyden Museum, is labelled »Java" and is as different from the two old species, as these are mutually.

Physodera parvicollis, v. d. Poll.

Oblongo-ovata, subconvexa, supra nitidissima, capite prothoraceque obscure viridi-aenescentibus, subviolaceo-internitentibus, elytris laete aureo-aeneis, ad suturam anguste violascentibus et ad marginem externum viridescentibus. Subtus cum pedibus fusco-aenescens, nitida. Caput leve, inter antennas late bi-impressum; prothorax parvus (in hoc genere), lateraliter paullo angulato-ampliatus, angulis anticis rotundatis, pilosis, ante angulos posticos acute angulatus, lateribus nonnihil reflexis, in disco obsolete bi-impressus, ad latera subrugosus; elytra ampla, apicem versus vix ampliata, apice late truncato, distincte lineato-punctata, intervallis planis, levibus.

P. Eschscholtzi Parry, *proxima sed prothorace multo an-*

gustiore et elytris angustioribus longioribusque, valde discrepat.

Long. 12 mm.

Habitat: Hongkong.

Uppersurface brightly shining, head and thorax dark bronzy-green with faint purplish reflections, parts of the mouth piceous, elytra bright golden bronzy with a narrow violaceous border along the suture and a pale greenish lateral rim. Underneath and legs piceous with a bronzy hue, very shining.

Head smooth with two elongate shallow impressions between the antennae and a third small one in the middle. Prothorax rather small for the genus, the front angles broadly rounded, hairy, the sides not much angularly expanded, the edges formed by the emargination before the hinder angles very acute, the lateral margins but moderately reflexed; the disc transversely depressed beyond the middle, with two impressions in the centre united by a hardly perceptible dorsal line, the subconcave sides faintly wrinkled. Scutellum triangular, acute. Elytra subquadrate and moderately convex, with the shoulders broadly rounded, the sides slightly swelling out downwards, the apex largely truncated; distinctly punctate-striate, the punctures diminishing towards the margins and the apex, the intervals plain and smooth. Undersurface almost smooth.

This species is extremely close to *P. Eschscholtzi* Parry, but may be distinguished by its smaller prothorax, which is much narrower than in any specimen of *Eschscholtzi* I have seen, and by its elytra being narrower and altogether longer.

Physodera cyanipennis, v. d. Poll.

Oblongo-ovata, subconvexa, supra nitidissima, capite prothoraceque atris, hoc lateribus sat coerulescentibus, elytris cyaneis, subviolascentibus. Subtus cum pedibus fusco-coerulescens, nitida. Caput leve, inter antennas obsolete bi-impressum; prothorax latus, lateribus in medio obtuse angu-

lato-ampliatis, paullo reflexis, angulis anticis valde rotundatis, pilosis, ante angulos posticos acute angulatus, in disco linea longitudinali leviter impressus, ad latera fere levis; elytra ampla, apicem versus nonnihil ampliata, apice late truncato, subtiliter lineato-punctata, intervallis planis, levibus.

P. Eschscholtzi Parry, *proxima, sed elytrorum colore diversa et prothorace leviore et magis rotundato-ampliato ab angulis anticis usque ad medium, facilis ad distinguendum.*

Long. 12 mm.

Habitat: Bonthain, S. Celebes (C. Ribbe!).

Uppersurface brightly shining; head and prothorax black, the latter with bluish tinges chiefly at the sides; elytra dark cyaneous with strong violaceous reflections; underneath and legs piceous with a bluish hue, very shining.

Head smooth with two rather obsolete impressions between the antennae. Prothorax broad, the sides much expanded and strongly rounded in the middle, the front angles broadly rounded and pilose, the edges, formed by the lateral emargination, rather acute, the lateral margins but slightly reflexed, the disc transversely depressed posteriorly, very smooth, with the median line obsolete, the subconcave sides also almost plain. Scutellum triangular, acute. Elytra subquadrate, moderately convex, with the shoulders strongly rounded, the sides slightly enlarged towards the top, which is broadly truncated; rather finely punctate-striate, the punctures becoming smaller towards the margins and the apex which latter they do not reach, the intervals plain and smooth. Below almost smooth.

Also very close to *P. Eschscholtzi* Parry, but of a different colour, the head and thorax smoother, moreover the thorax is not so angular at the sides, more rounded towards the front angles.

Physodera amplicollis, v. d. Poll.

Ceteris minor, angustior; sat convexa, nitida, capite nigro, prothorace fulvo, in medio nigro, utrinque gutta magna

eodem colore notato, elytris atro-violaceis, apice anguste testaceo-limbato, segmento ultimo abdominis supra testaceo, guttis tribus nigris notato. Pars inferior picea, apice ventris testaceo. Caput inter antennas transversim sulcatum, juxta oculos rugosum, vertice levi. Prothorax latus, valde transversus, capite fere duplo latior, elytris paullisper angustior, lateribus valde rotundatis, ante basin nonnihil emarginatis (desunt ante angulos posticos anguli acuti), angulis anticis deficientibus (margo frontalis cum lateribus arcu confluit), in disco linea impressus, antice posticeque rugosus, lateraliter punctis sparsis instructus. Elytra apicem versus nonnihil ampliata, apice late truncato, lineato-punctata, intervallis planis, sat dense et regulariter punctatis.

Haec species structura prothoracis, colore et sculptura ab omnibus valde discrepat.

Long. 9 mm.

Habitat: Java (Blume!).

Smaller and narrower than any of the already known species. Uppersurface very shining, however, not quite so brilliant as usual. Head black; prothorax fulvous with a broad irregular black band along the middle and a large round black spot on each side (these markings probably very variable); elytra purplish-black with the apex edged with testaceous; the exposed upperpart of the last abdominal segment testaceous with a round black spot in the centre and another smaller one on each side; underneath and legs piceous, the last ventral segment bordered with testaceous.

Head with a transverse rather deeply impressed groove in front, finely rugose along the eyes, smooth on the vertex. Prothorax very wide, almost twice as broad as the head and but a little narrower than the elytra at the base; the sides not angular in the middle but strongly rounded in a curved line towards the front margin, by which there are no regular front angles, however, the very spot of the angles is indicated by the usual pilosity; the acute edges before the hinder angles are also absent

or perhaps it is more correct to say that they coincide with the hinder angles, and therefore the basal margin is much longer than usual; the disc with an impressed median line, abbreviated anteriorly and posteriorly, finely rugose along the frontal and basal margins, with scattered large punctures at the sides, and in the middle. Elytra moderately convex, somewhat swelling out towards the apex, which is broadly truncated, the shoulders strongly rounded; finely punctate-striate, the intervals plain, regularly and rather closely punctured, the punctures of the same size as those forming the striae, which are consequently very indistinct. Underside almost smooth.

This species is very unlike any of the known species, as to colour, sculpture and structure of the thorax.